National centres to study natural calamities and disaster

2187. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether some universities have sought financial assistance to set up national centres to study natural calamities and disaster;

(b) if so, the details thereof, university-wise; and

(c) the action taken by the Central Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) The University Grants Commission (UGC) is not having any specific scheme to provide financial assistance to universities to set up national centre to study natural calamities and disaster. However, UGC provided financial assistance to five universities/colleges, for conducting courses on Disaster Management, during Tenth Plan period, under it's 'Innovative Programmes'.

Youths getting higher education

†2188. SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that only 8 to 10 per cent youths in the age group of 18 to 23 are getting higher education in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(c) the efforts being made to promote higher education?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) Subject to finalization of the Eleventh Plan, the Gross Entrolment Ratio (GER) in higher education is proposed to be increased to 15% by 2011-12, from the present/GER of about 10%. State-wise students enrolment in universities and colleges during the year 2005-06 is given in the Statement (*See* below).

Expansion of educational capacity by setting up new universities, colleges and other educational institutes has been proposed in the Eleventh Plan.

Statement

State-wise students enrolment in universities and colleges: 2005-2006

Sl. No	State/Union Territory	Total Enrolment	Women Enrolment	% of Women
1	2	3	4	5
1	Andhra Pradesh	911709	367172	40.27

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.